

1. Call to Order: 9:03 AM

A. Introduction of members – Frank, Keri, Kathy, Danielle, Bob S, Robert Kiseleff, Daniel

B. Introductions of non-members in attendance – Amy Lind, Shawna Pratt, Delana Ruud, Michael Connelly, Jack Farless, Cathy Johnston, Dave Spencer, Ken Winter, George Alves, Allison Erny, Cindy, Alexis Gray

2. Approval of Agenda: M/S unanimous

3. Review of Minutes: Hold to next month

4. Public Comment: Any member of the public may address the Council on any matter that is NOT listed on the agenda. Comments will normally be limited to 5 minutes.

Mike Connelly – Auburn Lake Trails FSC. He will be participating to identify areas of common interest.

Jon Anacker – Question re: residential burn season ending. Western Placer County? Chief Spencer – close of season is Monday at 8 AM. Urges extreme caution and reminder to check air quality to see if it is a burn day.

5. Old Business:

A. CalFire Grant Application: Kathy - Fuel reduction only (approx. 317 acres). Likely award announcements in July. We will put a plan of action together if awarded.

B. Fire Council E-Mail (AuburnFireSafeCouncil@gmail.com): Frank - Up and running! Will begin using to funnel. Frank can share password with Council members so folks can access. On web site, looks out of scope for budget so Frank is working with Shawna to make existing County resource more robust. Shawna notes agendas, minutes, photos, events, etc... can be added. Council members encouraged to provide ideas around what to include.

6. New Business/Action Items

A. BOR Plan Update – Daniel: Discussions over past few weeks fire, City and PCWA on their fuels management plan that is currently being developed. Auburn Shaded Fuel Break (ASFB) was missing from the draft plan. Asked for a copy of the plan, which BOR provided (it is a DRAFT). Also insisted on ASFB being included. Also asked for BOR to identify funding sources (Daniel pressed Cong McClintock), Plan now includes ASFB, plan for maintenance (City of Auburn is pushing at Congressional level to ensure BOR has resources). Daniel recommends letter from FSC on the issue of including ASFB in the plan and maintenance of that. Chief Spencer noted in addition to group meetings he has been reaching out to Sen. Nielsen and Cong. McClintock. At some point, they will have an ask but NEPA needs to happen first to get a better handle on costs. Identified his priorities for the BOR with their work. With all the funding in the works, he has concerns that Auburn area will be left out given it is project land (former Auburn Damn).

Kathy – Do we know when NEPA will be done? Chief Spencer = timelines are included, perhaps in the next couple of months.

Keri – Edgehill neighborhood issue around shaded fuel break boundaries. Daniel did note the focus thus far has been on doing what was already committed to and maintaining that, but this is a topic

to continue conversations on. Though he did note that BOR indicated to him they did NOT manage the land.

Bob S – He does not have confidence in BOR to get this done, and Congressional action to remove from project status and send to another agency is not feasible. Abutting property owners need to take personal responsibility and enter into MOUs and do the work themselves. Chief Spencer notes the response often is to push the funding issue to a responsibility of communities to obtain grants. Again, NEPA is key because that will identify with more specificity exactly what initial treatment and maintenance will entail.

Cindy – Asks about using Firewise Communities to generate letters on the topic to electeds and others. Daniel noted that is an important piece of it.

Frank – If those who own the land will not maintain it, we know who they will seek help from when a fire happens. Chief Spencer = This is an ongoing conversation around spending the funds up front in prevention rather than pay for recovery (which is about 6x as much). Suppression and recover will be funded so the prevention should be as well. They are keeping pressure on and will ask us to help out down the road.

B. Update on Financials – Bob: Expenditures to meet June deadlines on grant funds. We currently have surplus of approximately \$20,000. Kathy ads we are closing out the education grant in the next week or so. Billboard coming on 31st, up for about 2 weeks then will return next Spring for a second round. Focused on promoting FireWise communities. Per Bob, were able to get design through Daniel which saved funds.

C. Involvement & Education at public events – Frank: As reopening takes place, we need to start discussing what in person opportunities we would have to arrange speakers, attend events, etc...

Robert K = We previously discussed connecting with service organizations and that outreach is ongoing. Looking to connect with HOAs, FireWise Board meetings, etc... Looking for connections that Council members may have into groups we can engage with or events they are aware of. On the events front, looking for no cost opportunities at existing events. That said, we will likely encounter booth fees and insurance requirements. Working with Kathy on the education grant front to ensure we have materials needed.

Cindy - She is looking for opportunities to engage so consider her a volunteer for the events. Also, suggests the Fire Council consider becoming a resource to help attend meetings as communities begin the FireWise process given how thin Luana is spread.

Bob S – Insurance issue could be a big one, but we may be able to get exceptions to the requirements.

7. Agency Updates

- CAL FIRE/Placer County Fire –
- Auburn Fire – Chief Spencer: Continuing to work on additional fuel reduction efforts. Significant grazing efforts this year and likely will replicate. Working with the County to expand a bit into their areas as allowed by grant parameters.

Bob S – Notices some of the grazing is on private land so where is the money coming from?
Chief Spencer – The funds are restricted to private or City lands in terms of usage. They do work on private land especially when contiguous.

- Penryn Fire –
- Newcastle Fire – FD is progressing on financing for new fire station. Recently signed agreement with neighboring FD to help manage three under one administrative scheme. FD also distributing address signs to households that will be easily identifiable.
- Placer County – Shawna: Local hazard Mitigation Plan due to be posted for public input next week. Final update due to CalOES by end of June. Along with that plan, update ongoing to CWPP.
- U.S. BOR –
- State Parks -
- Fire Alliance – Daniel: Currently 130 FWC she is working on currently. 63 authorized, providing millions in in kind value of work within their communities. Newcastle and Penryn may need some additional project identified for CWPP.
- Firewise –
- Placer County Resource Conservation District –
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – George: Moving forward on CWPP work and project lists and survey are top priorities there. Getting good response and looking for more. Chipper program is still up and running down to 150-ish backlog with 4-6 week wait time (started with 300-ish and 8-12 week wait). Crews are working 4 10 hr days for the workweek to reduce set up and break down time. Doing community outreach as available with new RCD trailer.

Daniel B – Noted some additional potential resources for funding. And kudos to Allison and George for their work.

Cindy – Asks if survey went to FWC coordinators? George = yes, through Luana.

Allison (w/ NRCS) – ASFB project = still working on chipping piles, including piles left from Phase 1. Moving forward with Phase 3 which is on private land North of Foresthill Bridge. Also working nearby in Applegate.

- Other

Robert K – Asks about whether we have secured storage space at the City. Daniel B needs the additional information, Bob S will provide him approx. space needs for Daniel's weekly meeting with City Manager.

7. Roundtable:

Daniel – AFD sponsoring fuel reduction project for Auburn Community Service Day (June 12). Daniel will be sure we all have info.

8. Next Meeting Date and Adjourn (10:39): Next meeting June 18 on Zoom and perhaps hybrid in person.

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/940d7477daa94d219d06bf3cad8b8c3>

https://auburn.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=2&event_id=1617&meta_id=16253